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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## LET US SPEAK UP FOR FRANCE

SIR:

I must write to express my approval of the article in the May number of your periodical, *France in the Dock*, by Stéphane Lauzanne.

I have been wondering why some American has not spoken out in behalf of France, when we hear that "Germany cannot pay what has been demanded," and at the same time, "France is trying to get out of paying her debts."

France has larger debts than Germany, and has suffered the destruction of much of her means of securing wealth—at the hands of Germany. Let us speak up for France.

NANCY VIRGINIA AUSTEN.

New York.

## THE MYSTERY OF HAMLET

SIR:

Of course an Editor is not responsible for the sentiments included in a contributed article, but the sentiments of Prof. Thompson in the article on *Hamlet* in the current number of THE REVIEW are so adverse to my own that I must here and now enter my protest against it. If the play of *Hamlet* had been written under the conditions and for the purposes named in this article, Prof. Thompson ought to know that the play would not have been allowed to be acted, nor could it have been registered for printing. He should further have known that if either of these had been accomplished a Star Chamber Proceeding would have been instituted immediately, and I think that a Star Chamber Proceeding should now be instituted against such unmitigated slanders as are contained in this article. It seems to me that it is time to throw aside the Baconian lunacy, and the anti-Stratford negations, and have the truth told by the Professors of English in our Universities in America. This article is much more objectionable than any Baconian doctrine that ever was advanced which refutes itself because of its absurdity, and University Professors are supposed to tell the truth, and not advocate through means of criticisms any plain palpable misconstruction.

I do not mean any of the above statements as the slightest reflection upon your part in the publication of the article by Prof. Thompson, but I do protest against the continued misrepresentation of the poet and all of his plays.

S. S. ASHBAUGH.

Washington, D. C.